

CONFERENCE REPORT H.R. 2419,  
FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND EN-  
ERGY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARK E. SOUDER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 14, 2008*

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, I would like to make a few brief comments to clarify the fruit and vegetable provisions that were in the conference report.

In this and previous Congresses, Madam Speaker, I have cosponsored legislation to allow farmers who grow fruit and vegetables for processing to opt out of farm programs on an acre-for-acre basis without limitation, changes that would reduce farm program costs and improve the environment by allowing more extensive crop rotations. I am very pleased that the farm bill conference report takes a step in this direction by establishing a pilot project to allocate 75,000 acres of new authority for the production of fruit and vegetables for processing in specified Midwestern states.

To administrate this pilot project, the conference agreement gives the USDA broad discretion. It does not specify a procedure for allocation of the pilot project acreage or other administrative matters, such as re-allocation of unused acreage allocations among states. However, the agreement does clearly state that USDA is required to establish rules to assure that this additional fruit and vegetable production authority will not be abused. For example, only fruit and vegetables under contract for processing are to be produced under this authority, and the USDA is to assure that all of the crop produced is delivered to a processor and that the quantity of crop delivered under the original contract (the contract in existence upon Farm Service Agency certification) does not exceed the quantity that is produced on the contracted acreage.

Furthermore, the effects of the pilot project and fruit and vegetable restrictions on the specialty crop industry, both fresh and processed, are to be evaluated. These restrictions are intended to protect the objectives of the pilot project, not to compel food waste or excessively burden Farmers with added regulation. Finally, the conference report includes an important statement of policy indicating that in the next recalculation of base acreage, fruit and vegetable production will not cause a reduction in a farmer's base acreage. While this is a small step in reducing restrictions on the production of fruits and vegetables, it is a step in the right direction, and I commend the conference committee for including it.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 21, 2008*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD:

Name of Earmark and Amount: Cold Weather Layering System (CWLS)—\$4.0 million.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account Information: Navy, O&M, MARINE CORPS, PE BA01-1106N, Line 010.

Legal Name and Address of Receiving Entity: Peckham Industries, 2822 North Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Lansing, Michigan 48906.

Earmark Description: The CWLS is part of the Marine Corps' Mountain and Cold Weather Clothing and Equipment Program, which provides lightweight, durable combat clothing that allows Marines to operate in all kinds of cold weather environments. It is the intent of the Commandant of the Marine Corps to provide warfighters with a "capability set" of clothing to facilitate expeditionary operations in mountainous and cold weather environments. The goal is for the CWLS to reduce the weight and volume that a Marine operating as dismounted infantry must carry to accomplish combat missions in those conditions.

Earmark Budget: Cost of Garments Per System (for Peckham/Polartec layer of system ONLY)—\$137.07; Test and build approximately 29,000 total systems—\$4,000,000; Garment Production—\$2,000,000; Materials—\$1,600,000; Quality Control/Fielding—\$400,000; Total—\$4,000,000.

The Cold Weather Layering System includes: 1 Polartec Windpro MARPAT Jacket; 1 Polartec Stretch Windpro Hat; 1 Set of Polartec PowerDry Silkweight underwear top and pants; 1 Set of Polartec PowerDry Grid long underwear top and pants.

BILL CASTOR: BROUGHT THE  
WORLD TO HIS CLASSROOM

**HON. STEVE BUYER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 21, 2008*

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, as Americans we begin our careers with lofty goals; the sky is the limit because in America it is "okay" to dream big. And when we retire, and as we look back over our lives can we say that we made a difference and left the world a better place? I can assure you Bill Castor can say that without hesitation.

After 39 years of teaching in public education, Bill Castor has been an inspiration to his profession, the community, and most importantly, his students.

Bill graduated from Lapel High School in May 1964, and in 1969 he graduated from Ball State University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Studies, Sociology, American History, and Psychology. In 1973, he received his Masters degree in Social Studies Education from Purdue University.

As a young teacher in the 1970s at West Central High School, Bill taught my wife—then Joni Geyer. Joni always speaks fondly at the mention of his name.

Throughout his teaching career, Bill has taught both high school and middle school. His teaching assignments have included psychology, sociology, geography, government, and American history.

In his teaching career, Bill brought the world into his classroom. He knew how to bring history to life. Stepping into Bill's classroom was like stepping into the past as he incorporated his love for antiques in his lessons. Whether looking at an 1840s cabinet or a showcase of his antiques, history was not just read from a book in his classroom, but tangible items that students could see and touch.

Bill's sense of humor makes it easy to understand how he made such an impact on his students. Whether lecturing, involving students in a class project or discussion, or telling stories about the people and events in our country's history, his sense of humor was deeply woven throughout the classes that he taught, keeping participation and interest high for his students.

Bill's love for the liberties which make this Nation great are reflected in his efforts to honor the sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform. In that regard Bill organized Veteran's Day celebrations to make sure his students did not forget the people who spend their lives protecting our freedom. I have enjoyed participating in several of these activities honoring America over the years including the annual 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C. Bill would do along with his fellow teacher, Jody Healy.

The staff and students Roosevelt Middle School will miss Bill Castor. The teaching profession will miss him. He has left behind a fine legacy. His pleasant and positive outlook on life has been a refreshing and motivating influence on the students and faculty of Roosevelt Middle School.

Teachers often say that the biggest reward that they get from their profession is when they "connect" with students. Bill Castor connected with his students on a daily basis. He set the bar high as he brought the world to his classroom and challenged his students every day. In short, he made a difference in so many students' lives.

Mr. Castor, you should be proud of your contributions to your students, your fellow teachers and your community. Thank you for being a part of the Roosevelt Middle School faculty.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 21, 2008*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman FRED UPTON.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation—Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Eaton Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 19218 B Drive South, Marshall, MI 49068.

Description of Request: This request is to provide funding for the final phase of an ongoing three phase program between Eaton and the U.S. Army. Eaton Corporation, which produces truck components in Galesburg, Michigan, has successfully worked with the Army over the past several years to develop specialized torque-modifying differentials for the HUMVEE to improve the vehicle safety. Phase I and II of the project was structured to first adapt commercial Eaton side-to-side torque modifying differentials to HUMVEES. These programs have proven very successful in quantitatively demonstrating improved vehicle safety by increasing mobility and stability on rough terrain and drastically reducing vehicle rollovers. Prototype systems will be delivered to the Army for additional testing in May